

ASSURANCE OF TRANSPORTATION

A. Emergency ambulance services.

Emergency ambulance transportation for members and eligible persons is a covered service. Payment is limited to the cost of transporting patients in a ground or air ambulance to the nearest appropriate provider or medical facility capable of meeting the patient's medical needs when no other means of transportation is both appropriate and available.

B. Medically necessary transportation.

1. Medically necessary transportation services shall be arranged for or provided by prepaid capitated contractors according to prior authorization guidelines for members who are unable to arrange or pay for their own transportation to a service site or location when free transportation services are not available.
2. When an individual who is eligible but not enrolled requires medically necessary transportation, due to an inability to arrange or pay for such services, or such services are not available at no cost, the attending physician or practitioner shall order those services in

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writing. Such transportation services require prior authorization of the Administration.

C. Meals, lodging and attendant services.

1. Expenses for meals, lodging and transportation for a member while en route to or returning from a health care service site, as prior authorized, out of the member's (contractor's) service area or county of residence are AHCCCS covered services.
2. Meals, lodging and transportation expenses of an attendant, who may be a family household member accompanying a member out of the member's service area, shall be covered if the services of the attendant are ordered in writing by the primary care physician. A salary for an attendant is covered if the attendant is not a part of the member's family household.

D. Limitations

1. Family household members, friends and neighbors may be reimbursed for providing transportation services only if the services are ordered in writing by the primary care physician and free transportation or public transportation is not available.

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2. A charitable organization routinely providing transportation services at no cost to ambulatory or chairbound persons may not charge or seek reimbursement from AHCCCS for the provision of such services to AHCCCS eligible persons but may enter into subcontractual agreements with AHCCCS contractors for medically necessary transportation services provided under such arrangements.
3. Payment for meals, lodging and transportation of attendant and a compensation not to exceed Federal minimum wage for such attendant is allowed only when the member requires covered services that are not available in the contractor's service area. If the member is admitted to an inpatient facility, meals, lodging and a compensation for the attendant are covered only when accompanying the member en route to and returning from the facility.

E. Prior authorization.

Prior Authorization for transportation services provided or ordered by a capped fee-for-service provider is required for the following:

1. All medically necessary transportation services.
2. All meals, lodging and services of an attendant.

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